The Black Alliance News
Reflections
Post Office Box 1480 • Newark, New Jersey 07101 • (973) 673-4310
Vol. 3 – NO. 3
March 1, 1998
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Culture & Achievement

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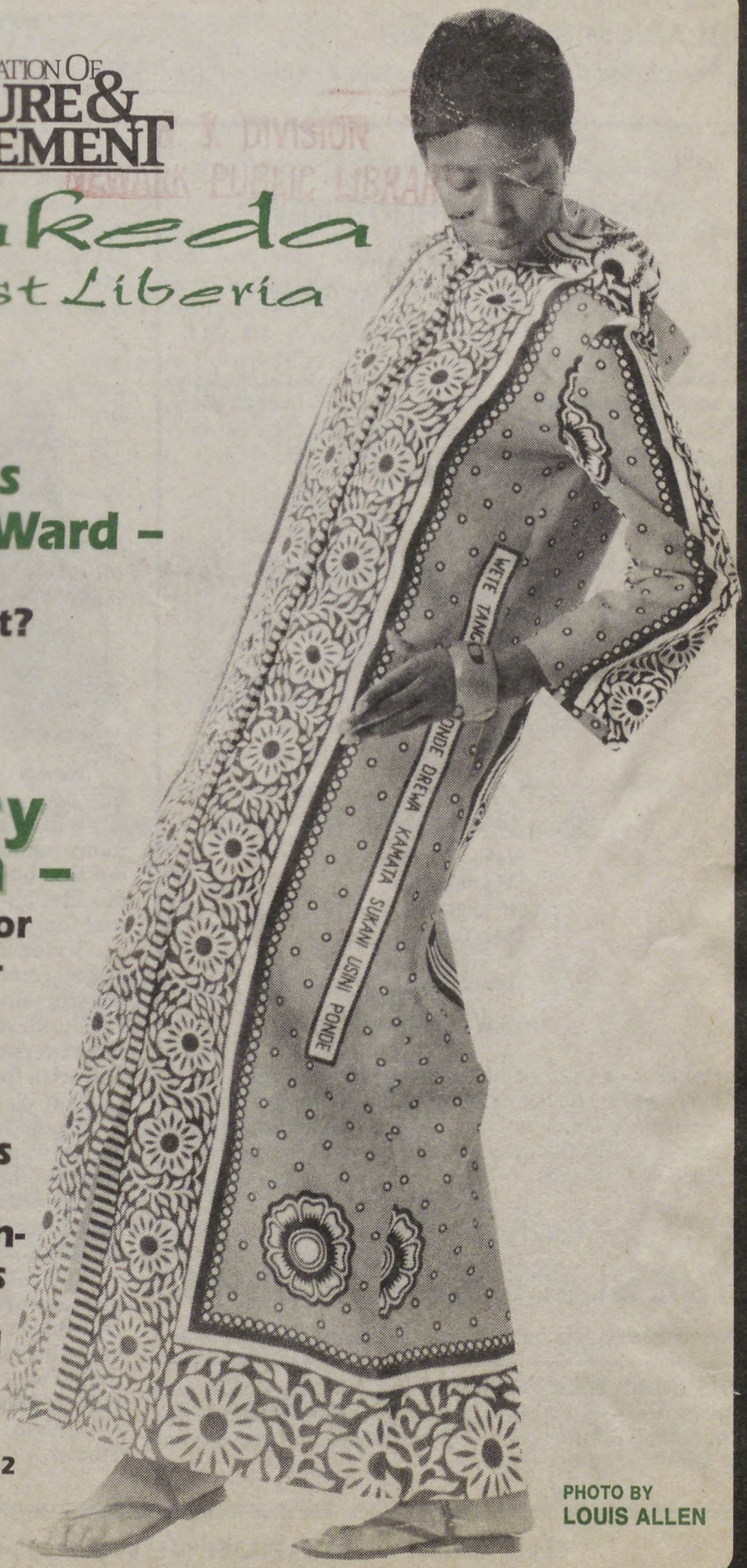

PHOTO BY LOUIS ALLEN

Newark's Central Ward – how did it come about?

... see page 2

Black History Month –

- Looking for local Afro-centric fashions
- Where to find books designed for African-Americans
- Upcoming special events

...see page 12

NEW JERSEY EDITION
BLACK MIRROR NEWS
True stories that aren't in the dailies

Address all Editorial and Advertising Correspondence to:

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3 P.M.-9 P.M. – Mon. thru Wed.

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SUBSCRIBE TODAY! We'll mail you all the social and nightlife news about black folks from all overthe tri-state area. *Check out the story behind the story – true stories that aren't in the dailies.*

IRVINE I. TURNER

Newark celebrates Black History Month, we are recalling the name of people who represented us in making our city a little better. We noticed that the local media printed many names from our city but left out **Irvine I. Turner**, our first black Councilman and Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson, our first black Mayor who held office for sixteen years. It's real funny to native Newarkers.

Irvine I. Turner ran twice under the Commission form of government and lost. He then ran under the change of government banner and fought incumbent Mayor Leo Carlin who didn't want to make the old Third Ward a Ward for black people. Carlin wanted Newark to have four Wards only with the North, South, East and West splitting up the Central Ward like an orange.

Irvine I. Turner, John T. Barnes, Jack Hicks and his Assoc. went to court here and in Washington, D.C. and found we had enough blacks in the old Third Ward to be represented by a Councilman. that was our beginning, we had never sponsored a collective group of black people although we were scattered all over the city.

In 1954, he ran and was elected the first black Councilman, it wasn't easy because once it was said we could have representation as the Central Ward, everybody wanted to be the leader – which is another story. Note: Also, Larrie W. Stalks was the first black woman to become head of the Health Department, Inspections, Sanitation and Welfare.

Calvin West was the first At-Large after Irvine I. Turner.

POLLY TICKS...

ESSEX COUNTY – MAYOR SHARPE JAMES State of the City message was terrific and most people loved what he said about the Newark Board of Education firing local like Samuel Manegault and his mother, born and raised in Newark, NJ . A young lawyer, fired because of the new Board of Education's takeover by the state. It's interesting that they have been hiring people from New York, Pennsylvania and points west...

INCUMBENT MAYOR JAMES is the No. 1 candidate for re-election. The second black man to run for the top city post and has come to the forefront with his own money and the support of the community... Kenneth A. Gibson did it when he ran for mayor and now Sharpe James has done the same thing. No one could say they did anything different. Yet through the grapevine we hear of big outside power brokers telling Sharpe's opposition to run for the office so that they could be the power brokers for the new city of Newark, NJ.

It appears that these outside people would rather move someone who is using "building blocks" to help people who live in Newark have better lives and gain employment for themselves.

They say that the duo that's running for election are promising control of the baseball stadium (not yet built), promising control of the River Front promotion which also hasn't been built yet. Promising to give away every thing in Newark like the present Essex County Executive and the Freeholder President are doing today. Blacks and Hispanics and all other minorities most open their eyes, look around and register to vote on May 12, 1998.

Don't say you haven't read this message! Register for the May 12, 1998 Re-election of Sharpe James for Mayor.

Patricia A. Hurt
Essex County Prosecutor

PATRICIA A. HURT, our new Essex County Prosecutor quoted these words, and our whole community agrees: "Criminals should live in fear of being apprehended by police," said Hurt. "Law-abiding citizens should not live in fear of being attacked by criminals."

Polly Ticks... Ticks... Ticks... are you watching...

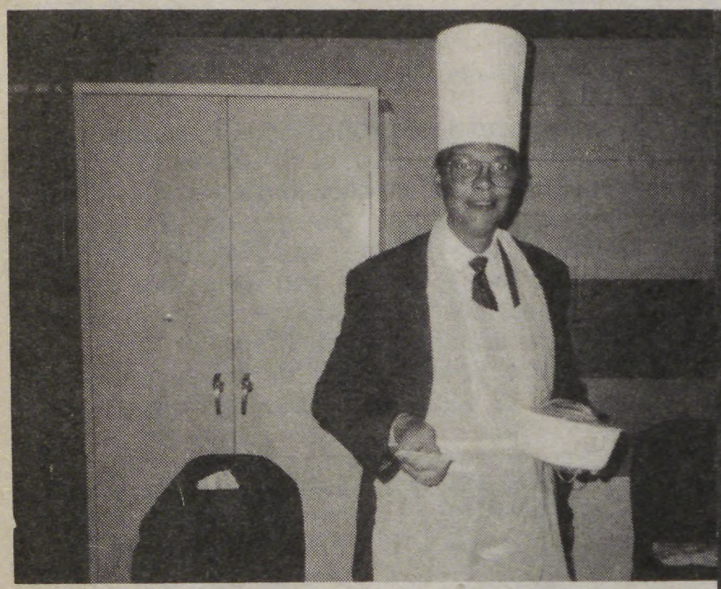
MAYOR SHARPE JAMES
Incumbent Candidate for Mayor of Newark

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE ON MAY 12th?

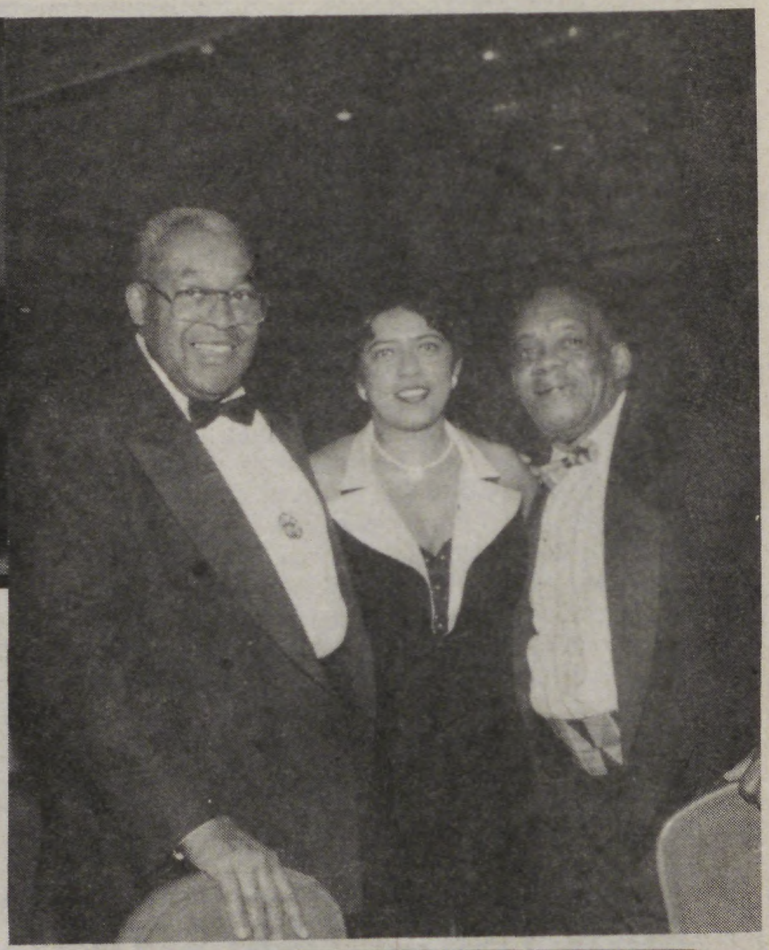
MAYOR SHARPE JAMES'

Annual Birthday GALA

Thursday,
February 19, 1998
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
The Robert Treat Travelodge
Tri-State Ballroom
50 Park Place, Newark, New Jersey
Contribution: $250.00



What's cooking? – TV'S WWOR newscaster Reg Wells seems to be asking...



Alvin A. Stokes, guest Gladys D. Hoffler and Hilton Davis at the Englewood 30th Year College Fund UNCF in which they honored Whittie English Jr. (see page 14)

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THE SECRET'S OUT

Register before Feb. 28th and receive a $500.00 "My Future" Scholarship toward your Professional Career in Cosmetology.

FACT: New Jersey salon owners report that they plan to hire 10,733 professional cosmetologists during the next six months.

National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences - March 1997

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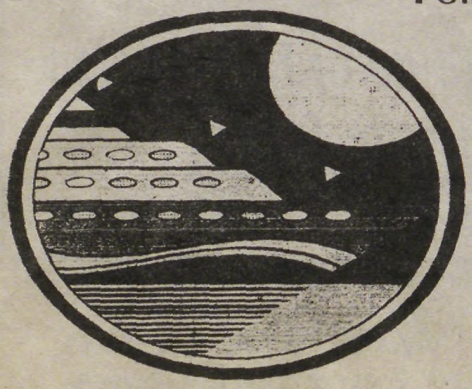
For reservations and information please contact:



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FALLING LEAVES

JOHN G. GENSEL, 80. He had a church in Newark for musicians and had Sunday Vespers on South Orange Avenue.

GLORIA ROBINSON-SANCHEZ, suddenly, on Jan. 24, 1998. Born in Newark, a social worker for the state of New Jersey, beloved mother of A'Lelia Kilar Robinson and he late Arianna Sanchez, devoted daughter of Alejandro Sanchez Sr. and the late Ramona Sanchez, loving sister of Lydia Sanchez-Flagg, Jose R. Sanchez, Alejandro Y. Sanchez Jr., Pedro A. Sanchez and Alonzo Alford, also survived by a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

COURTNEY WEEKS, Chief Transportation Inspector Newark Police Department Division of Taxicabs.

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Let The Music Begin

PHOTO BY: GLEN FRIESON

CHARLIE SLADE AND THE JAZZ CREATIONS

Charlie Slade's New Jersey Jazz Creations Group Goes National Including A Performance At Newark, New Jersey's Top Brass

A new and emerging jazz group, Charlie Slade and the Jazz Creations, composed of professional musicians and a former singer with the Shirelles, is bringing to the national music scene years of experience playing with some of the giants of jazz and popular music.

On January 29, the group performed at the Robert Treat Hotel's Top Brass in Newark, New Jersey.

Slade, the founder of the group, and of East Orange, New Jersey who plays drums, and has been dubbed "Mr. Drums" because of his intricate drum styling, brings a long list of artists he has performed with which includes Sonny Stitt, the Four Cleffs, and Gloria Coleman.

Slade's Jazz Creations features Gail Allen of Passaic, New Jersey, the band's vocalist who has performed with the legendary Shirelles singing group, Arthur Prysock and Jimmy McGriff.

Formed less than a year, the group is currently making plans to go into the studio to make a recording on the Airmen label which will feature such tunes as "I Found My Way Home," "Believe," "Don't Cha Go Away Mad," and "Lush Life."

In addition to Slade and Ms. Allen, Jazz Creations is also composed of organ and piano player Radam Schwartz of New Brunswick, New Jersey, a popular composer, arranger and educator; and tenor saxophone player, Tommy Gryce of Trenton, New Jersey who has recorded with Gene Ammons, Max Roach, Quincy Jones, Betty Carter and Art Blakey.

"It's not often that you can find a group as talented and having the experience that Radam, Tommy and Gail has," said Slade. "In putting together the group, I knew the key was to have people who have played with the best and who can entertain their audiences," he said.

"Already we are getting calls about the group from people around the country who have heard about us," said Slade. Persons seeking booking information may direct all inquiries to LeJay Associates, 4500 Bordentown Avenue, Suite 1148, Sayreville, NJ 08872 or by calling (732) 238-8230.

Thursdays JAZZ
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Some of our local folks, having a ball and enjoying it all– (smiles)

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Kenneth A. Gibson
Candidate for Essex County Executive

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
VOTE ON JUNE 2ND
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS....

Boy! We haven't seen novelist **Dorothy M. Hazzard** around lately.... **Mike Tyson** has said it again that sportswriters are wrong about he and **Don King**... Women who are running for the at-large council seats are **Chaneyfield**, the hottest with **Donna Seay** who has folks talking... Send your get-well cards to **Gene Thompson**... **Linda** and **Ron** may not be married but they are closer than peanut butter on bread...**Carol's** at Washington and James Street has the **Bridge Club** folks and the place is great... **Henrietta Parker**, one of the most knowledgeable persons around about TV. society. Wow!... Went into City Hall, East Orange to take care of business, what service and manners – **Mayor Bowser** on the money!... Remember when you're thinking of traveling to Bermuda and environs – **Lorraine Lavender** is your travel agent (**639-1977**). Also, let the *Black Mirror* know, because we do have folks that will make your stay pleasant. Watch for the new happenings at the **Top Brass**, **Dena Allen**, and **Betti Du Chanter** your choice vocalists on the rise...

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BEAUTICIAN & BARBER OF THE YEAR?

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IT'S IN THE STARS

By ADA

ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20
If you want to achieve your goals, take time to meditate and self-communion. Introspection gives you the greatest advantage in overcoming worry and will allow you to achieve your goals.

TAURUS APRIL 21-MAY 22
Don't be hasty with any commitments. Take a long look at those around you. Find out who is on your side and exercise self-control.

GEMINI MAY 23-JUNE 21
Surround yourself with beautiful things as well as people. You are doing well but you need to get some of those irons out of the fire.

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22
Perfect those new ideas but don't abandon them or change horses in the middle of the stream. Fickleness could be detrimental.

LEO JULY 23-AUGUST 22
You handle responsibility well which is good for those around you. Also taking care of others helps you keep in touch with your inner-self.

VIRGO AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
It's so hard to fool you, people think you're psychic. They are partly right. Small details rarely escape you.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
You are easily wounded by perceived criticism. When you retreat, people are baffled by your moods. Try not to keep jumping to conclusions.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
You need lots of praise and flattery but cannot stand people paying attention to others. This can cause you to have unnecessary run-ins with your friends.

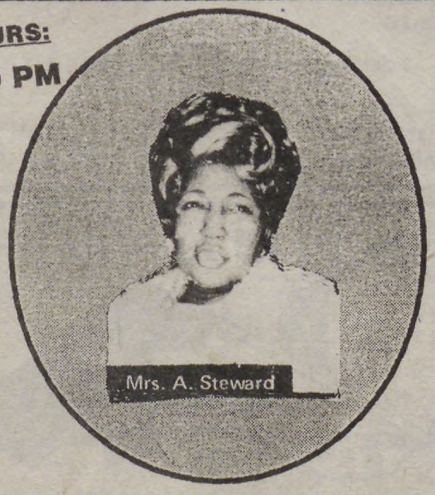
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 22
You are good at handling money but are apt to live above your means. Check up on your spending. It's a good time to start now.

CAPRICORNUS DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 20
Self confidence is need to get your house in order. You have the capability to do almost anything you want. Knowledge is power.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 19
People take advantage of your generosity and this can hurt you. Try keeping your wallet closed and saying no more often.

PISCES FEBRUARY 20-MARCH 20
Choose your occupation carefully because you'll probably be doing it for the rest of your life. Learn to relax and success is ultimately yours.

NEW HOURS:
8 AM - 9 PM



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Survey of Afrocentric materials and goods

The *Star Ledger* recently, surveyed the local scene during this month of Black History and found that although the weather has been perfect for shopping some of the stores that sell African and international fashions were practically empty.

Many of these stores, feature African fashions and artifacts from all parts of the continent, and dot Halsey Street.

Up on Bergen Street, owner John Martin of Ke-Dar Book Store says February's Black History Month is his busiest.

Parents come into his store looking for books that will aid their children in doing reports on Black History. He also carries a kit designed for African-American churches. "Sanfoka," published by Urban Ministries, shows the role of blacks in biblical history.

John recommends books that tell of the lesser known blacks in American history. Including Martin Luther King Jr., Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the man credited with setting up a trading post that later became the city of Chicago.

He recommends such books as *"The Six Black Presidents, Black Blood: White Masks"* by Auset Bakhufu. The author contends that Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Warren G. Harding, Dwight Eisenhower, Abraham Lincoln and his first term vice president, Hannibal Hamlin, all had black ancestors.

A & B Books on Branford Place is another source for African-American materials.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Some Black History Month Events

NEWARK'S 20th ANNUAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE PARADE INTERFAITH SPIRITUAL BREAKFAST at the **Robert Treat Hotel**, 50 Park Place.

AFRICA MEETS AMERICA: Feb. 1-28 – An **Art Exhibition of Works by African and African American Arts**. Featuring works by Jerry Gant & Nii Aso Glover and many guest artists. at the **African Globe Studios**, Broad St.

RHYHME TYME III – AN OPEN Mic Showcase for Rappers & Singers Hosted by Jerry Gant. **Sunday Feb. 22 7:30 pm** at the **African Globe Studios**, Broad St.

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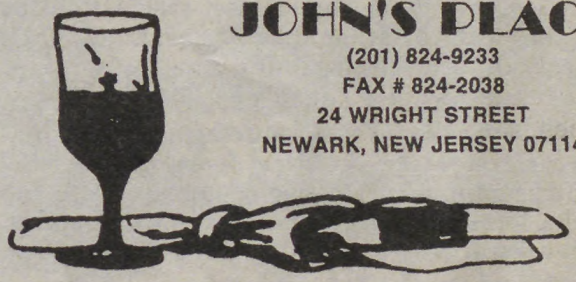

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Englewood Social Club Honoree

He graduated from Dwight Morrow High School, Englewood, NJ. In 1940, attended Officers Candidate School. During WWII, Whittie served with distinction as a 1st Lieutenant in the Army Signal Corp. and trained with the all Black 90th Tuskegee Pursuit Squadron, known as "The Tuskegee Airmen".

After WWII, he attended college and in 1952, Whittie and his father formed English Construction Corporation (General Contractors and builders of residential apartments). Later with his father, they formed, English Realty Associates.

In the 1960's, Whittie founded the Empire Mortgage Company. He performed real estate appraisal for banks, attorneys and corporations in New Jersey and New York. In 1967, Whittie English, Francis Hutchins, Hank Smith and others formed the Englewood Social Club. Whittie served in several offices, including President and Secretary.

Presently Whittie is CEO of English Realty which is in its 46th year of existence. Affiliated with the Agency are his daughters Joanne English Rollison, President and Bonita English, Office Assistant.

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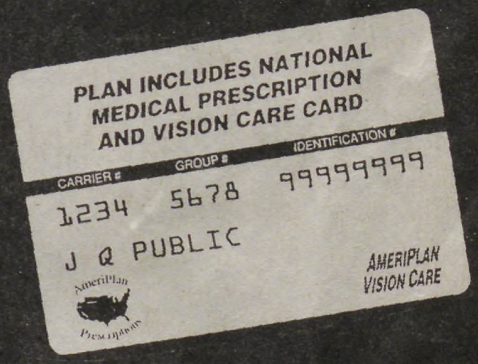

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